

HOUSE RESOLUTION 182
By Hill

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. William L. Gaby of
Johnson City.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of
the death of Dr. William L. Gaby; and

WHEREAS, William Gaby was an exemplary public servant and consummate
professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in
numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in Hot Springs, North Carolina, he was a son of the late Edward Lee
Gaby and Bertha Frances Rufty Gaby; and

WHEREAS, William Gaby was a graduate of Unicoi County High School, received his
bachelor's and master's degrees from University of Tennessee in 1939, and 1940, respectively,
and in 1946, he earned his doctorate degree from St. Louis University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gaby served as a bacteriologist for the Tennessee Health Department,
Winthrop Chemical Company, and Bristol Laboratories before accepting a professor's position
with Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia, where he taught from 1949 to 1964; and

WHEREAS, in 1964, Dr. Gaby joined the faculty at East Tennessee State University,
where he helped to found the Health Sciences Department, and served as its first Chair and as
a professor of microbiology. He earned the respect of his colleagues and students alike for the
exemplary quality of his work and was awarded professor emeritus status upon his retirement in
1983; and

WHEREAS, distinguishing himself as a professional of the greatest ability and integrity,
Dr. Gaby was a member and former president of the North Johnson City Rotary Club; he was
also a member of numerous professional academic societies, including the American Society of
Microbiologists, the American Academy of Immunologists, the American Society of Biological
Chemists, Sigma Xi, and Phi Kappa Phi; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gaby was an active and devout member of the First United Methodist Church, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gaby was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; he especially appreciated the heartfelt love, affection, and care shown to him by his daughter, Fran; and

WHEREAS, by his passing, he was reunited with his loving parents, Edward Lee Gaby and Bertha Frances Rufty Gaby; and sister Motelle "Sis" Gaby Crisp; and

WHEREAS, William Gaby is survived by his beloved wife, Virginia Cox Gaby; three daughters, Nancy Sue Gaby-Lefkowitz, Virginia Lee "Jenny" Gaby-Holt, and Frances Ann "Fran" Gaby; three grandchildren, Lori Beth Holt Horton, Matthew Holt, and Ryan Holt; and three great-grandchildren, Analeigh, Bethany, and Catherine Horton; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gaby leaves behind an indelible legacy of education, respect, and commitment in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Dr. William L. Gaby, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family and many friends of Dr. William L. Gaby.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.